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BOX PATENT APPLICATION  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Re: Attorney Docket No. : 056314/0002  
Applicants : Kenichi IGA et al.  
Serial No. : New Patent Application  
Filed : Concurrently Herewith  
Title : **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
OPTICAL FIBER SPLICING**  
Group : Not Yet Assigned  
Examiner : Not Yet Assigned  
Priority : Japanese Patent Application No. 347238/1999  
filed December 7, 1999

Sir:

Kindly file the annexed papers indicated below:

- (X) Patent Application
- (X) Formal Drawings (5 Sheets)
- (X) Certified Copy of Priority Document  
(with English translation of first page)
- (X) Check in the amount of \$490.00 (covering the \$355.00 basic filing  
fee and \$135.00 multiple dependent claim fee all at the Small  
Entity rate)

Small Entity Status Claimed? [X] Yes [ ] No

**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL UNDER 37 CFR 1.10**

"Express Mail" mailing label number: **EL416700443US**

Date of Deposit: **November 21, 2000**

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Address" service under 37 CFR § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, Box Patent Application.

Dawn M. Samaan

Name

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Signature

Respectfully submitted,  
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FOR LETTERS PATENT OF THE UNITED STATES

FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR OPTICAL FIBER SPLICING**

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09717733-112100